

### Health Guarantee

# and **Declarations**

As a member of Dog's Victoria, Pawprint Puppies declare that we stand by and obey the code of practice and ethics issued by Dog's Victoria, including a high level of understanding of breeding practices, canine care and health management as dog breeders. All of our declarations reflect on the Dog's Victoria Model Health and Management Plan.

#### **Health Guarantee**

Before any puppy or adult dog is sold, we have taken all reasonable steps to ensure that the dog is healthy, or by disclosing any physical abnormalities. We ensure all dogs sold or given away are in the best possible state of health.

As members of Dog's Victoria, we abide by the following health declarations as a minimum practice when selling dogs:

- Where a dog is returned within 3 days of sale, for any reason not supported by a statement from a Vet, the member must take back the dog and refund 75% of the purchase price.
- Where a dog is returned within 21 days of sale accompanied by a statement from a Vet that the dog is unacceptable for health reasons, the member must take back the dog and refund 100% of the purchase price.
- If a dog is diagnosed with, suffering from, dies of, or is euthanised from a physical defect or disease that is directly traceable to the point of sale within 3 years of purchase, the member must, subject to a second veterinary opinion, refund 100% of the purchase price where the dog's owner provides supporting statements from a Vet, including test results where a suitable test is available.
- Vet reports and test results must be made available by the owner to the breeder for the breeder to obtain their own veterinary advice (second opinion), and for the purpose of informing future breeding management.

#### **Vet Agreements**

Whilst we have regular vets that we use, Pawprint Puppies oblige by the Vet agreements often required as part of meeting local government planning laws. The agreements covers for:

- the use of the vet's facilities for the treatment of dogs;
- providing vaccination certificates for puppies being sold from the breeder;
- providing assistance and being able to provide treatment and/or services within 6 hours of notification that veterinary attention is required;
- provision of isolation housing if you don't have the ability to separately house a dog who may be infectious to other dogs;
- supervision of dogs in isolation who remain in your care;
- 24 hour contact or treatment or provision of services through an alternative 24 hour or emergency

practice.

#### **Vet Checks**

All dogs have a general health check by a vet prior to their first mating. Proof of the check is a vet's certificate, stating that at the time of examination the dog had no known impediments to breeding.

All dogs used for breeding have a general health check by a vet at least once per year. Whilst it is good practice that we likely already do for all our dogs, this is specifically used for breeding purposes.

Health checks apply to our dogs as members of Dog's Victoria. We do not keep records for dogs we do not own (eg dogs that have been used from another breeder).

All bitches have a post-partum health check by a vet. Unless an earlier check by a vet is warranted, this can occur at the same time as a vet check of the puppies – eg at time of dew claw removal, vaccinating, microchipping, or checking for the health guarantee.

#### Health, Behaviour & Welfare Assessments

All puppies and adult dogs will have a health and welfare assessment conducted prior to sale – this applies to puppies being sold from a litter, juvenile or adult dogs being sold, and retired breeding dogs being re-homed

All puppies and adult dogs being sold should be accompanied by full health documentation, vaccination records, microchip information and transfer documentation, general care and preventative health care information – along with information about any physical or behavioural abnormalities that have been detected and their likely long and short term impact on the health and welfare of the puppy or adult dog.

All puppies and adult dogs being sold or re-homed will undergo a veterinary health & welfare examination prior to sale.

Where puppy or adult dog has a physical, health or behavioural abnormality, or has tested positive to known hereditary disease, information shall be recorded in their individual health record and provided to the purchaser, along with information about how that abnormality may affect the short- and long-term health and welfare of the dog.

Puppies and adult dogs that are sick or unwell shall not be made available for sale.

#### **Quarantine and Disease Protocol**

Pawprint Puppies minimises the risk of introducing disease to our dogs. This risk may be from visiting dogs or having encounters with humans at young ages, our own dogs that have been off the property (such as dogs returning from a show, trial or event, dogs returning from a veterinary or boarding facility, dogs returning from stud duties), or new dogs that are being introduced. We do this by keeping our dogs away from any noticeably unwell dogs, and if they come into contact with these dogs, we consider separating the dogs that may have been exposed until veterinary advice is received or possible incubation times have been exceeded. We take further care around puppies and lactating bitches including changing clothes and shoes before entering the whelping area when we have been around dogs that we do not know the health status of.

We have defined separate areas of housing that we can use, and have considered both human and dog movement through these areas.

Where one or more of my dogs becomes unwell, we will immediately seek the advice of my veterinarian regarding treatment, any requirement for enhanced hygiene or disinfection practices, as well as isolation and quarantine requirements to minimise the spread of the disease to our other dogs, and the dogs of others. If there is a chance of the disease being notifiable then the relevant authorities will need to be contacted, this

## Pawprint Puppies

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